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GROUP 1
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CITE

DIST 24

COUNTRY INTERNATIONAL/NORTH VIETNAM

DOI EARLY FEBRUARY 1967

SUBJECT VISIT WITH PHAM VAN DONG BY INTERNATIONAL WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL TEAM TO
INVESTIGATE U.S. "WAR CRIMES" IN VIETNAM. 948769

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1-10-03 BY SP3 ALM/ELH

REF:

ACQ

1 file document + remains
classified per OGA ltr 2-6-02.

FIELD NO.

SOURCE

1. NORTH VIETNAM PRIME MINISTER PHAM VAN DONG, IN A THREE-HOUR LONG WITH A
GROUP OF PERSONS WHO VISITED THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (DRV) TO INVESTIGATE
U.S. "WAR CRIMES" IN THAT COUNTRY, DECLARED THAT THE REMAINDER OF 1967 AND THE YEAR
1968 WILL BE A CRUCIAL PERIOD IN THE WAR AGAINST THE AMERICANS IN VIETNAM. "AT THE
NEXT DRY SEASON" A HEAVY ATTACK WILL BE STAGED WHICH, WITH CONTINUED US CASUALTIES
OVER A SPAN OF TIME, WOULD HAVE AN ANTI-WAR EFFECT UPON AMERICAN VOTERS IN THE US
ELECTIONS IN THE FALL OF 1968.

REC-15 105-156243-87
COMMENT: IN SOUTH VIETNAM THE DRV

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SEASON IS APPROXIMATELY FROM DECEMBER TO APRIL.)

2. PHAM VAN DONG ASSERTED THAT THE DRV WANTS PEACE WITH THE US.

3. PHAM VAN DONG PLEDGED FULL SUPPORT IN GAINING THE DESIRED EVIDENCE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE TEAM WAS TAKEN ON TRIPS OUTSIDE OF HANOI WHERE THEY SAW REMNANTS OF VILLAGES "IN ASHES." THEY TOOK MANY PHOTOGRAPHS OF RUINED VILLAGES AND OF INJURED VICTIMS.) HE SAID THE DRV GOVERNMENT WAS IN FAVOR OF FULL ADJUDICATION BY THE TRIBUNAL, INCLUDING SENTENCING.

4. A VIETCONG REPRESENTATIVE WAS PRESENT DURING THE MEETING. THE "WAR CRIMES" INVESTIGATORS SAID THEY FOUND THE DRV OFFICIALS GENERALLY LESS MILITANT REGARDING THE WAR THAN THE VIETCONG REPRESENTATIVE.

5. THE GROUP ALSO HAD A 30-MINUTE PROTOCOL VISIT WITH THE PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH WHO WISHED THEM WELL AND PLEDGED SUPPORT.

6. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE DATE AND PLACE OF THE PHAM VAN DONG INTERVIEW WERE NOT SPECIFIED; HOWEVER, HANOI'S VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY (VNA) ON 14 FEBRUARY 1967, REPORTING ON THE DEPARTURE OF THE FIRST INVESTIGATION TEAM OF THE INTERNATIONAL WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL ON THAT DATE, NOTED THAT THE TEAM HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY PHAM VAN DONG. IT DID NOT REPORT THE TIME, PLACE OR SUBSTANCE OF THIS MEETING. ON 16 JANUARY 1967, THE VNA TRANSMITTED THE COMMUNIQUE OF THE MISSION OF THE JAPAN COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE U.S. WAR CRIMES IN VIETNAM, WHICH VISITED THE DRV FROM 21 DECEMBER 1966 TO 16 JANUARY 1967. THE COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT THE JAPANESE MISSION WAS RECEIVED BY PHAM VAN DONG, BUT AGAIN IT DID NOT REPORT THE TIME, PLACE OR

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SUBSTANCE OF THIS MEETING. THERE IS NO REPORTING AVAILABLE TO INDICATE WHETHER PHAM VAN DONG ADDRESSED THE REMARKS REPORTED HERE TO THE WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL TEAM EXCLUSIVELY OR TO THE JAPANESE TEAM ALSO, POSSIBLY IN A JOINT MEETING. THE MEMBERS OF THE FIRST INVESTIGATING TEAM WERE ROGER PIC, SEISUREI TSURUSHIMA, JEAN-PIERRE VIGIER, LEON MATARASSO, DR. J. A. MALCOLM CALDWELL, WILFRED BURCHETT AND JOHN GERASSI.

7. FIELD DISSEM: CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC (ALSO SENT

REPORT CLASS

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